

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/803,005

Examiner

Daniel L. Greene

Applicant(s)

LINDSKOG ET AL.

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/28/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As per claims 1, 7 and 10 the closest prior art of record Epstein U.S. Patent 6,453,416 and Naccache U.S. Patent 5,910,989 taken either individually or in combination with other prior art of record fails to teach or suggest responding to the merchant request with a specific data string having a header, where the header includes a request for a digital signature to be appended to the data string.

Epstein describes providing a secure proxy-signing device to form digital signatures, which are supplied over an insecure network. Epstein further describes forming a digital signature of a document using a private key stored within the signing device and data items supplied to the signing device from which a document hash is derived and authenticated within the signing device. Epstein still further describes encrypting the document hash with the private key to form the digital signature only if the document hash has been authenticated. Naccache describes a method for generating digital signatures for electronic messages, and is directed to enabling smart cards with reduced calculation and storage resources to produce digital signatures with a high degree of security in spite of their reduced resources. Naccache further describes sending a generated digital signature to a verifier device or terminal in which a smart card has been inserted.

However, neither Epstein nor Naccache, alone or in combination, disclose responding to the merchant request with a specific data string having a header, where the header includes a request for a digital signature to be appended to the data string.

Specifically, Epstein does not disclose responding with a specific data string. Instead, Epstein discloses that a the blank document Do (which may be integrated in (a Java applet " is transmitted. However, this blank document does not contain a specific data string. Instead, as its description implies, it is simply a blank document that lacks a specific data string. Moreover, there is no disclosure that the blank document disclosed in Epstein has a header that includes a request for a digital signature to be appended to the data string. Instead, Epstein merely discloses that the blank document sent to the user is filled out and approved by the user and then sent to a server. Naccache likewise fails to disclose use of the claims specific data string" or "header."

The specific allowable feature, which distinguishes the present invention over the prior art is responding to the merchant request with a specific data string having a header, where the header includes a request for a digital signature to be appended to the data string.

Claims 2 -6 and 11, and 8-9, are dependent upon Claims 1 and 7 respectively and thus have all the limitations of claim 1 and 7 respectively and are allowable for that reason.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 3621

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

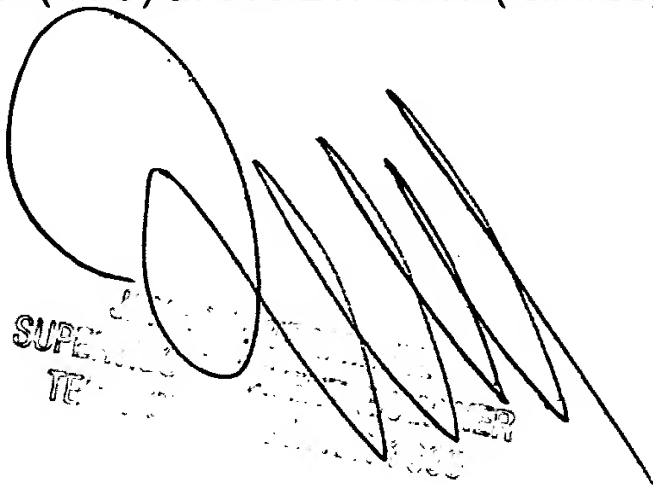
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel L. Greene whose telephone number is 571-272-6707. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thur. 8am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James P. Trammell can be reached on 571-272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

8/23/2005

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop followed by several sharp, overlapping strokes.

Daniel L. Greene
Examiner
Art Unit 3621